



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
1102 SE Quince Street • PO Box 47990  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

## Resolution 06-02

**WHEREAS** the Washington State Board of Health was established by the State Constitution in 1889;

**WHEREAS** the Board provides a forum for the development of public health policy in Washington State and is empowered to hold hearings and explore ways to improve the health status of the citizenry;

**WHEREAS** Edmund W. Gray, M.D. was first appointed to the Board in 1987 by Governor Booth Gardner before resigning to run for the Legislature;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray was appointed again by Governor Gary Locke in August 1996, then reappointed twice;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray is the longest-serving local health officer in Washington State, having been appointed health officer for Stevens County in 1973 and going on to help establish the Northeast Tri-County Health District, where he remains the local health officer;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray brings to the Board a unique mix of experiences and perspectives—in addition to his expertise in public health policy and practice, the former captain in the United States Air Force has more than 50 years of clinical experience as a family practice physician, is a former president of the Washington State Medical Association and as such played a role in the creation of the Basic Health Plan, is a Colville City Councilmember, is a member of the Basic Health Plan Advisory Committee, and has taught at the University of Washington.

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray's professional awards include the Warren Featherstone Reid Award for Excellence in Health Care in 1995, and the American Medical Association's prestigious Dr. Nathan Daves Award this year;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray's sagacity has helped guide the Board through numerous major public policy debates, including childhood vaccination, farm worker housing, and HIV named-reporting;

**WHEREAS** Dr. Gray, as a member of the Board's Access Committee, has tirelessly urged the Board to advocate for health care finance reforms that provide access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality health care for everyone in Washington State, repeatedly reminding the Board that "this is the State Board of Health, not the State Board of Public Health";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board recognizes and thanks Dr. Edmund W. Gray for nearly a decade of dedicated and outstanding service to the citizens of Washington State by working to assure the public's health as a member of the Washington State Board of Health.

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Kim Marie Thorburn, Chair